



December 15, 2011

Mr. Ken Berg  
Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Office  
United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
510 Desmond Drive SE, Suite 102  
Lacey, WA 98503

Subject: 2011 Forest Practices HCP Annual Report,  
Incidental Take Permits 1573 (NOAA) and TE 121202-0 (USFWS)

Dear Mr. Berg:

Enclosed please find the 2011 annual report for the State of Washington's Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan (Forest Practices HCP). This report covers the period from July 2010 through June 2011, fulfilling the State's obligation to "submit periodic reports to the Services describing actions taken by the State to implement the HCP" per Section 9.1 of the Implementing Agreement.

A few highlights from the reporting period include:

- The Forest Practices Board (Board) adopted changes to the watershed analysis rules to help ensure public safety and protection of public natural resources.
- Three Adaptive Management Program projects were completed and approved by the Cooperative Monitoring, Evaluation, and Research (CMER) Committee. As the result of the road sub-basin study, the Board is considering amendments to Board Manual Section 3, *Guidelines for Forest Roads*.
- The Family Forest Fish Passage Program assisted small forest landowners in repairing 27 fish passage barriers, and opening up 82 miles of fish habitat. Since 2003, 193 barriers have been fixed, opening up almost 500 miles of fish habitat.
- The Forest Practices Board approved draft language amending the rules regarding Road Maintenance and Abandonment Plans (RMAP) to provide economic relief to forest landowners. The rule change would allow landowners to extend the deadline for up to five years, or until 2021, to complete scheduled road work.

Complete results of fifth-year Forest Practices HCP implementation efforts are included in the enclosed 2011 report, which also can be found on our website at [www.dnr.wa.gov](http://www.dnr.wa.gov).




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The State looks forward to a strong, continuing partnership with NOAA Fisheries Services and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to conserve aquatic species and their habitats on Washington's private and state-owned forest lands.

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, after appropriate inquiries, the information submitted is true, accurate and complete.

Sincerely,



Peter Goldmark  
Commissioner of Public Lands

c: The Honorable Christine Gregoire, Washington State Governor  
Forest Practices Board  
Phil Anderson, Director, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Ted Sturdevant, Director, Washington State Department of Ecology